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International drug control

International cooperation against the world drug problem

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report has been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/197, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of that resolution. The report provides an overview of the world drug situation and the implementation of the mandates relating to international drug control. It also provides information on the outcome of the high-level review of the progress made by Member States in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, conducted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in 2014, and contains recommendations for consideration by the Assembly in preparing for the special session on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

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I. Introduction

1. The present report, prepared pursuant to Assembly resolution 68/197, provides an overview of the world drug situation as well as an overview of the implementation of the mandates relating to international drug control by Member States, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), other entities of the United Nations system and relevant international organizations. It follows the structure of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem[1] in highlighting the priorities followed by Member States and UNODC. It also provides information on the outcome of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and contains recommendations for consideration by the Assembly in preparing for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

2. The report provides an overview of efforts undertaken by UNODC to pursue a balanced and integrated approach in controlling drugs and combating crime, as part of a United Nations system-wide effort in promoting the rule of law, justice, human rights, health and development. The actions of the Office are guided by the strategic framework for the period 2014-2015 and the medium-term strategy for the period 2012-2015 adopted by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2012/12, as well as by the integrated programme approach, by which UNODC operates at the national, regional, interregional and global levels.

3. At the global level, UNODC implements thematic programmes supporting the ratification and implementation of the international drug control conventions, the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto and United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice.

4. At the regional level, UNODC promotes cross-border cooperation and regional programmes and initiatives among partner countries. To date, the Office has launched 10 integrated regional programmes, for Central America, the Caribbean, Arab States, East Africa, West Africa, Southern Africa, South-Eastern Europe, Afghanistan and neighbouring countries, South Asia and South-East Asia. The Office also initiated an interregional approach connecting various regional programmes.

5. At the national level, the Office assists Member States in improving their normative, institutional and operational capacity. In response to requests from Member States, UNODC continued to provide assistance in drafting national legislation for the implementation of the three international drug control conventions. That assistance included support for the adoption or revision of national legislation in Albania, Bhutan, Liberia, Timor-Leste, Ukraine and Viet Nam.

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

II. Overview of the world drug situation

6. The information contained in this section is mainly based on the content of the replies received by UNODC to the annual report questionnaire, part IV (illicit supply of drugs), submitted by Governments for 2012 and previous years. The annual submission of replies to the annual report questionnaire is an obligation under the three international drug control conventions. The information derived from the annual report questionnaire is supplemented by information contained in the reports of significant drug seizures provided by States to UNODC in 2012/13, the reports of illicit drug crop monitoring surveys undertaken by UNODC in partnership with participating Governments, official national publications, data provided to UNODC through the regional meetings of heads of national law enforcement agencies and data published by international and regional organizations.

Illicit production, trafficking and use of opium

7. The global area under illicit opium poppy cultivation in 2013 was 296,720 hectares (ha), the highest level since 1998. The main increase was observed in Afghanistan, where the area of opium poppy cultivation increased by 36 per cent. The potential production of opium in 2013 is estimated to be 6,883 tons, which is a return to the levels observed in 2008. Consequently, the potential production of heroin also increased, to 558 tons, comparable to the amount in 2008.

8. Following a sharp increase in 2011, global seizures of heroin and illicit morphine declined in 2012, although remaining above the levels of 2010 and prior years. The overall decrease was mainly due to declining seizures in South-West Asia. However, there was an increase in heroin seizures in many other regions, mainly in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, South Asia and Oceania.

9. Opiates and opioids continue to top the list of drugs that cause the most drug-related deaths worldwide. While opiate use has remained stable or declined in Western and Central Europe, there are signs of increased use in North America.

Illicit manufacture, trafficking and use of cocaine

10. The estimated net area under coca bush cultivation worldwide as of 31 December 2012 was the lowest since the beginning of available estimates in 1990: 133,700 ha — a decline of 14 per cent from the estimated cultivation of 2011. Global cocaine seizures increased to 671 tons in 2012, from 634 tons in 2011. The main increase and the largest quantities of cocaine seized were in South America and Western and Central Europe.

11. Cocaine use is still relatively concentrated in the Americas, Europe and Oceania, with most of the world's cocaine being produced in three countries in South America. While there is no conclusive evidence with respect to the extent of cocaine use in Africa and Asia, expert opinion indicates that there may be pockets of emerging cocaine use in those two regions, related to the rise in trafficking through the African region.

Illicit production, trafficking and use of cannabis

12. Demand for cannabis herb is often met through local production, resulting in more localized trafficking patterns, in comparison with other plant-based illicit drugs.

13. Global seizures of cannabis herb decreased in 2012 owing to a reduction in the quantity seized in North America. Global cannabis use seems to have decreased, essentially reflecting the decrease in cannabis use estimates reported by a number of countries in Western and Central Europe. At the same time, more people using cannabis are seeking treatment each year.

Illicit manufacture of and trafficking in amphetamine-type stimulants and new psychoactive substances, and the increasing diversion of precursors

14. Since 2010, surging seizures of amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) point to a rapid expansion of the global ATS market, with total ATS seizures rising by more than 80 per cent to over 135 tons in 2012. The increase in ATS seizures is primarily attributed to the global rise in methamphetamine seizures, especially in East and South-East Asia and North America, with global ATS seizures more than doubling over the same period, reaching 107 tons in 2012.

15. West Africa has gained prominence as a region for the manufacture of methamphetamine, which is then trafficked to East and South-East Asia. South-West Asia has also emerged as a significant area of manufacture of methamphetamine, which is destined for East and South-East Asia.

16. Large quantities of amphetamine seizures continue to be reported in the Middle East.

17. Seizures of "ecstasy" increased in 2012, with major quantities of "ecstasy" being seized in East and South-East Asia, followed by Europe, which together accounted for over 80 per cent of global seizures of "ecstasy".

18. New psychoactive substances have emerged worldwide at an unprecedented pace. By 2013, the emergence of 348 new psychoactive substances, in a total of 94 countries in all regions, had been reported to UNODC. The market of new psychoactive substances is very dynamic, and a number of those drugs are transient in nature. In response, Member States have developed different national legislative responses to new psychoactive substances.

III. International cooperation against the world drug problem

A. Action by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

19. Pursuant to paragraph 40 of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 56/12, the high-level segment of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission was held on 13 and 14 March 2014, with the participation of a total of 129 States.

20. At the high-level segment, Member States conducted a general debate on progress achieved and challenges in implementing the Political Declaration and Plan

of Action and round-table discussions on the three pillars of the Plan of Action: (a) demand reduction: reducing drug abuse and dependence through a comprehensive approach; (b) supply reduction: reducing the illicit supply of drugs, control of precursors and amphetamine-type stimulants, eradicating the illicit cultivation of crops and alternative development; and (c) international cooperation: countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation.

21. The ministers and Government representatives participating in the high-level segment adopted the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action. The Joint Ministerial Statement highlights the importance of health and the prevention and treatment of drug abuse, including protection against HIV, as envisaged by the international drug control conventions. It recognizes the progress that has been achieved, while acknowledging persisting and new challenges with respect to demand and supply reduction and with respect to money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation. The Statement provides a strong basis on which to continue preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

22. At its fifty-seventh regular session, the Commission adopted 11 resolutions on matters ranging from the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development to promoting a drug-free society through sport, promoting drug use prevention and recovery from substance use disorders, and enhancing international cooperation in the identification and reporting of new psychoactive substances. Commission resolution 57/5, entitled "Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016" paved the way for the preparations for the special session and specified the role to be played by the Commission in that regard.

23. At its fifty-seventh session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided to include *alpha*-phenylacetoacetonitrile (APAAN) and its optical isomers in Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. Furthermore, the Commission decided not to transfer dronabinol and its stereoisomers from Schedule II to Schedule III of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.

B. Action by subsidiary bodies

24. Five meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs were held in 2013: the Tenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, held in Vienna from 2 to 5 July; the Twenty-third Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, held in Addis Ababa from 16 to 20 September; the Twenty-third Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Quito from 30 September to 4 October; the Thirty-seventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok from 21 to 24 October; and the forty-eighth session of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, held in Vienna from 25 to 28 November.

25. The subsidiary bodies addressed issues of priority in drug law enforcement in their regions and reviewed progress made in the implementation of recommendations made at previous sessions. They also made recommendations to the Commission on various aspects of drug supply and demand reduction.

C. Action by States parties

26. The Plurinational State of Bolivia deposited its instrument of accession to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol in 2013, and Timor-Leste acceded to the 1988 Convention in 2014.

IV. Demand reduction and related measures

A. Reducing drug abuse and its health and social consequences

27. The Office continued its collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) on improving the coverage and quality of services for the treatment and care of people with drug use disorders, based on scientific evidence and ethical standards, reaching 38 countries. The Office continued to promote voluntary treatment services in the community, as an alternative to prison and compulsory detention centres.

28. A UNODC/WHO discussion paper on preventing and reducing opioid overdose mortality was published and presented at the International Harm Reduction Conference held in Vilnius in June 2013 and at the session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in March 2014.

29. Work with children exposed to drugs at a young age continued, with treatment and social protection interventions being delivered in four countries; that issue was also the focus of an expert working group of the Paris Pact Initiative that met in October 2013.

30. With regard to women, WHO published guidelines on the management of substance abuse disorders during pregnancy in the context of a project supported by UNODC. The guidelines were launched during the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in March 2014, together with the draft guidelines on the prevention and treatment of drug abuse among girls and women.

31. The Office is developing international standards on drug dependence treatment, as well as training materials for policymakers on health-centred and balanced drug control policies.

32. Through the Prevention Strategy and Policymakers Initiative, UNODC facilitated the planning of improved national drug prevention systems on the basis of the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention in 20 countries. The family skills training programme expanded, reaching 15 countries, in which UNODC and the national ministries of health are piloting a comprehensive prevention system in schools and among families, and a preliminary evaluation shows a statistically significant decrease in risk factors and substance abuse. Moreover, the Office is initiating the development of guidelines and training materials on the evaluation of drug prevention initiatives.

33. The Youth Initiative mobilized approximately 1.2 million young people in 25 countries through social media and with the support of grants from the Drug Abuse Prevention Centre of Japan, and organized a forum with the participation of more than 40 young people aged 14-24 years from more than 30 countries. A statement by the forum was delivered to the delegates at the high-level segment of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in March 2014.

34. Through its country, regional and global programmes, UNODC supported drug prevention and drug dependence treatment in a total of 57 countries, including through the recently launched project to support the reduction of demand for illicit drugs in the Andean region.

B. Access to treatment, health care and social services, including prevention of HIV/AIDS and other drug-related diseases

35. UNODC has strengthened its capacity to help countries to rapidly scale up delivery of harm reduction services in the context of HIV, including advocacy, technical assistance and capacity-building. In consultation with national stakeholders including civil society organizations, UNODC has identified key strategic areas where the Office has the comparative advantage of being able to contribute the most to achieving the target set in the General Assembly's 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS of reducing HIV transmission among people who inject drugs by 50 per cent by 2015.

36. UNODC has identified, together with global and regional civil society organization partners, 24 high-priority countries in the area of injecting drug use and HIV in which the Office is concentrating its efforts and resources in the period 2013-2015. The countries were selected following an analysis of (a) epidemiological data on injecting drug use and HIV burden, including in prisons; (b) country readiness with regard to the policy and legislative environment allowing essential services such as needle and syringe programmes, opioid substitution therapy, condom programmes and antiretroviral therapy; and (c) the resource environment, including international and domestic funding and human resources.

37. UNODC has advocated for increased HIV policies and programmes for women who use drugs and the removal of barriers to access to comprehensive services by carrying out needs assessments with respect to gender-responsive services for women who inject drugs and for female sexual partners of men who inject drugs. A policy paper and a practical guide on gender-responsive HIV services for women who use drugs have been developed. The capacity of service providers to deliver evidence-informed, gender-specific services for women who inject drugs and for female prisoners has been enhanced in several countries, for example, Afghanistan, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Ukraine.

38. UNODC has developed a training programme for sensitizing law enforcement officials about harm reduction in the context of HIV and for enhancing their understanding of how law enforcement practices can influence access by people who inject drugs to HIV prevention, treatment and care services. Workshops to pilot the programme were held in 10 high-priority countries. The programme is aimed at institutionalizing HIV training as part of the curricula of national police academies

and enhancing partnerships in harm reduction among law enforcement agencies, civil society organizations and the social, health and other relevant sectors.

39. To advocate for increasing domestic investment in harm reduction, a meeting on economics and financing of effective harm reduction strategies in the context of HIV was organized by UNODC, together with the World Bank and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) during the International Harm Reduction Conference held in Vilnius in June 2013, bringing together senior officials from Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan and Ukraine, as well as the Minister of Finance of Kyrgyzstan, together with senior experts from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, UNAIDS, UNODC, the World Bank and WHO.

40. In 2013, UNODC updated global estimates on injecting drug use and HIV among people who inject drugs and established partnerships with UNAIDS, WHO, the World Bank and civil society organizations to further improve global data on HIV and injecting drug use and data on HIV services for people who inject drugs. UNODC has formalized its collaboration with civil society organizations regarding the sharing of strategic information on people who inject drugs and HIV and engaged civil society organizations in global efforts to improve the data and estimation methodology with regard to drug use and HIV.

C. Access to controlled drugs for medical purposes

41. Pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 54/6, UNODC worked on a revised version of the section of the model law related to access to controlled drugs for medical purposes and initiated collaboration with WHO and the Union for International Cancer Control to pilot a package of interventions in three countries. As an example of action at the national level, in Ghana in early 2014, key stakeholders addressed areas related to policy, legislation, availability of prescription medication, education, professional capacity-building in the health-care professions and raising awareness at the community level.

V. Supply reduction and related measures

42. In response to requests from Member States, UNODC provides technical assistance to build the capacity of law enforcement and judicial authorities to respond to illicit drug trafficking, improve border control and counter the laundering of the proceeds of crime. Assistance is provided in support of the 1988 Convention, the Organized Crime Convention and the Convention against Corruption. Alternative livelihood programmes are also an important component of strategies to reduce the illicit supply of drugs.

A. Regional and international cooperation in countering the world drug problem and the principle of common and shared responsibility

43. Through its thematic programme on transnational organized crime and illicit trafficking, including drug trafficking, UNODC delivers technical assistance to build the counter-narcotics capacity of national agencies in West Africa, South-East Asia, Central and South America, Central Asia, Afghanistan and Pakistan and supports efforts to increase coordination and sharing of information on targeted transnational drug trafficking groups and on precursor control.

44. UNODC has been promoting regional law enforcement cooperation through, inter alia, the establishment of and support to regional centres such as the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre, the joint planning cell of Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Pakistan, and the Gulf Cooperation Council's Criminal Information Centre to Combat Drugs. Those regional centres focus on and provide platforms for sharing criminal intelligence and coordination of multilateral operations. There are requests from the regions of South Asia, West Africa and elsewhere to assist in establishing similar regional platforms for law enforcement cooperation.

45. In order to strengthen interregional cooperation, UNODC is also promoting cooperation among those regional centres, as well as with international and other regional organizations such as the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the World Customs Organization (WCO), the European Police Office (Europol), the Southeast European Law Enforcement Center, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Chiefs of Police (ASEANAPOL) and others. That initiative, known as a "network of networks", is aimed at building and strengthening cooperation links between those entities and to leverage their combined strength in the fight against organized crime in general, including drug trafficking.

46. In partnership with WCO, UNODC implements technical assistance programmes that address the threat of organized crime and trafficking of illicit drugs through the maritime vector of sea container freight. The Container Control Programme assists law enforcement agencies in identifying and inspecting high-risk maritime containers through targeted selection by specialist inter-agency units established and trained under this initiative. To date, the Programme is operational in 20 Member States, with plans for its expansion into new regions. Participating ports can communicate and cooperate through the WCO ContainerComm platform, a web-based encrypted communication tool that enables secure, real-time and standardized communication of data such as warning messages, seizure reports, feedback, alerts and other relevant law enforcement-related information.

B. Sustainable crop control strategies targeting the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

47. UNODC continues to promote South-South cooperation and the exchange of experiences among Member States in alternative development and provides technical assistance for country-level alternative development programmes. The

adoption by the General Assembly, in its resolution 68/196, of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, on the recommendation of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, provides Member States with a framework in which to implement, monitor and assess alternative development activities.

48. UNODC continued its work on addressing illicit drug crop cultivation through development-oriented drug control programmes in Afghanistan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Peru.

49. In Colombia and Peru, UNODC alternative development programmes continued supporting farmer-led small business enterprises, which improved the social and economic situation of families in coca bush-growing areas. In 2013, in Peru alone, UNODC supported the establishment of 5,882 ha of palm trees, 2,200 ha of cocoa, and 300 ha of coffee and significant reforestation areas.

50. In Afghanistan, the introduction of water harvesting techniques in the Kohsan district led to a decrease in soil erosion and significant savings in water resources, thus improving the quality of life of beneficiary families. It is estimated that in those areas, land use efficiency increased by more than 10 per cent and water use efficiency by more than 20 per cent.

51. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar, UNODC alternative development programmes improved the livelihood of targeted farmer households in opium poppy-growing areas by significantly improving the farmers' food security situation, enhancing opportunities to earn licit income and enabling access to water, health services, markets and credits.

52. In November 2013, UNODC organized, together with the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, an expert group meeting aimed at reaching out to new stakeholders in the field of alternative development and discussing successes and challenges. Experts from China, India, Guatemala, Morocco, Myanmar, Nigeria, and the Russian Federation presented their models and implementation of alternative development.

VI. Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation

53. Through its Global Programme Against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, in 2013 UNODC helped build capacity in the areas of countering money-laundering and the financing of terrorism to 47 requesting countries in nine subregions. That assistance was delivered through training, international conferences and substantive legal reviews.

54. Ongoing assistance by UNODC included tailored training for the staff of judicial authorities, financial intelligence units, law enforcement authorities and customs and border control agencies. The training addressed the practical and operational aspects of countering money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, as well as the disruption of illicit financial flows.

55. UNODC continued to provide support to the Asset Recovery Network of the Financial Action Task Force of South America against Money-Laundering and the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network of Southern Africa. The Asset Recovery Network for Asia and the Pacific was launched in 2013, and work with Member States has begun in West Africa for the creation of a similar network in that subregion.

56. UNODC launched the enhanced International Money-Laundering Information Network and its Anti-Money-Laundering International Database. In addition, UNODC experts conducted a joint research project with the Financial Action Task Force on illicit financial flows from Afghan opiates and participated in conferences and workshops on that topic as part of the work of UNODC under the Paris Pact Initiative.

57. UNODC also published a joint study with the World Bank and INTERPOL entitled *Pirate Trails: Tracking the Illicit Financial Flows from Pirate Activities off the Horn of Africa*, on the illicit financial flows resulting from piracy off the coast of Somalia. Training sessions were also provided in the countries of the Horn of Africa in association with partners such as the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, the World Bank and INTERPOL.

58. Together with the Commonwealth Secretariat and the International Monetary Fund, UNODC began updating the current model provisions for common-law legal systems on money-laundering, terrorist financing, preventive measures and the proceeds of crime.

59. Judicial cooperation was strengthened by providing technical assistance to the focal points of the regional platforms in the Sahel region, Central America and West Africa and enhancing their effectiveness in facilitating extradition and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters.

VII. Data collection and research

60. UNODC continued to support countries in improving the availability of data on drugs. In particular, UNODC continued to assist various Governments in the monitoring of illicit crops and production of drugs. In 2013, technical support was provided to Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Ecuador and Peru for monitoring coca bush cultivation, to the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar for monitoring opium poppy cultivation and to Afghanistan and Mexico for monitoring opium poppy and cannabis plant cultivation.

61. Expert advice was provided on the setting-up of drug monitoring systems in East and West Africa and for the issuance of the first annual report on the drug situation in Afghanistan. UNODC is also supporting experts in the countries to improve their data collection and reporting capacities.

62. Of particular importance in the *World Drug Report 2014* are the new estimates jointly produced by UNODC, WHO, UNAIDS and the World Bank on the number of people who inject drugs and the number of people who inject drugs and are living with HIV. The *World Drug Report 2014* also contains a discussion on the global chemical industry and potential vulnerabilities allowing for the diversion of chemicals that can be used in the manufacture of illicit drugs.

63. In 2013, UNODC also published three thematic reports, *Opiate Flows through Northern Afghanistan and Central Asia: A Threat Assessment*, *The Illicit Drug Trade through South-Eastern Europe* and *Impacts of Drug Use on Users and Their Families in Afghanistan*. Those reports have been used by the law enforcement institutions, policymakers, researchers and the general public.

64. UNODC, in consultation with WHO, WCO, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States and the Global Tobacco Surveillance System of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the United States of America prepared a report for the forty-fifth session of the Statistical Commission on improving the availability and quality of drug statistics (E/CN.3/2014/19 and Corr.1), which was also made available to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

65. Pursuant to Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 56/4 and 57/11, the Office established the UNODC early warning advisory, a global Internet-based platform to monitor, analyse and report trends on new psychoactive substances, in the framework of its global Synthetics Monitoring, Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme. The platform serves as a basis for effective evidence-based policy responses and collaboration with national, regional and international partners such as the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction and WHO. Research outputs include regional reports on amphetamine-type stimulants and new psychoactive substances in Latin America and South-East Asia in 2013 and the *Global Synthetic Drugs Assessment* published in 2014. Capacity-building activities for the identification of synthetic drugs, for law enforcement officers, were undertaken primarily in South-East Asia, whereas activities conducted in Latin America focused on improving drug use survey instruments in collaboration with the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission.

66. UNODC continues its efforts to enhance the analytical capacity of drug analysis laboratories to meet internationally accepted standards through the development of manuals and guidelines on procedural approaches, forensic methodologies and laboratory best practices. The significant increase in the number of national drug-testing laboratories participating in the international collaborative exercises, with currently 165 participating laboratories from 57 Member States, demonstrates the increased awareness of the value of the programme and the need for such support to assure the quality of test results.

VIII. Inter-agency cooperation

67. The Office has further strengthened its cooperation and coordination with other United Nations agencies, including with the partner entities of the United Nations system task force on transnational organized crime and drug trafficking as threats to security and stability. The task force is chaired by UNODC and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat and comprises the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), United Nations Children's Fund, the World Bank, the Department of Public Information, the United Nations Development Programme, the Peacebuilding Support Office, WHO, UNAIDS and the Office for

Disarmament Affairs. Its work is to be closely linked to the Security Sector Reform Task Force, the United Nations Development Group and the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group. It provides an important forum for the wider United Nations family to ensure a coherent position on issues related to transnational organized crime and illicit drugs.

68. The Task Force has adopted key messages on drugs and crime, as well as talking points on drug policy for use by senior United Nations leaders in their communication initiatives. It is anticipated that the United Nations system resident coordinators will also utilize those messages when communicating with national-level counterparts. Among the various joint initiatives emerging from the forum of the task force is a road map of events and meetings that can be used to assist Member States in preparing for and contributing to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem, to be held in 2016.

69. In the area of health, the Office continues to collaborate closely with WHO on issues related to availability of pain medication and drug dependence treatment. As chair of the UNAIDS Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations, UNODC is taking an active role in ensuring access to effective prevention, treatment and care services for people who inject drugs, as outlined in the *WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users*.

70. In the area of supply reduction, UNODC continued its cooperation with INTERPOL and WCO on the Airport Communication Project, supporting the joint airport interdiction task forces at priority international airports in West Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. As mentioned above, the Container Control Programme, implemented jointly with WCO to assist Member States in combating illicit trafficking and cross-border organized crime, expanded worldwide during the period under review.

IX. Progress made in the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem

71. In its resolution 68/197, the General Assembly noted that the outcome of the high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action should be submitted through the Economic and Social Council to the Assembly (see A/69/87-E/2014/80), in view of the special session of the Assembly in 2016. The Assembly requested the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the United Nations organ with prime responsibility for drug control matters, to engage in the preparatory process for the special session, including by presenting proposals from its fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions through the Economic and Social Council in support of the preparatory process, to be considered by the General Assembly starting at its sixty-ninth session.

72. In response, as mentioned above, the Commission adopted resolution 57/5, entitled "Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016". All operative paragraphs of Commission resolution 57/5, apart from

paragraph 14, are to be operationalized by the Commission, in recognition of the Commission's leading role in the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly, as the central policymaking body of the United Nations dealing with drug-related matters, which is requested to make best use of its existing meetings and reporting entitlements to ensure an adequate, inclusive and effective preparatory process for the special session in 2016.

73. In resolution 57/5, the Commission decided to present proposals, for consideration by the General Assembly, regarding all organizational matters, including the agenda, dates, substantive issues to be covered, outcomes and other issues relevant to the successful preparations for the special session. The Commission requested UNODC, as the leading entity in the United Nations system for countering the world drug problem, to provide substantive expertise and technical support to the preparatory process, and requested the Secretariat to prepare a report for consideration by the Commission before or at its reconvened fifty-seventh session, containing recommendations on the preparations for, the possible outcomes of and organizational matters relating to that special session. The Commission further recommended that organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, multilateral development banks, other relevant international organizations, including the International Narcotics Control Board, and regional organizations contribute fully to the Commission's preparations, in particular by submitting to the Commission, through the Executive Director of UNODC, specific recommendations on the issues to be addressed by the Assembly at that session. The Commission also recognized the important role played by civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, and the need for their active involvement in the preparations for the special session and their effective, substantive and active involvement during the special session and requested the Chair of the Commission to consider undertaking consultations and other appropriate actions in that regard with relevant stakeholders.

74. The Commission immediately started implementation of those provisions. As an initial step, to facilitate the broader consultation process with United Nations entities, international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations, a website has been created (www.ungass2016.org), with the intention of enabling global dialogue in an inclusive and transparent manner and to function as a resource tool for the Commission in its preparations for the special session to be held in 2016. All relevant United Nations entities, international and regional organizations as well as all non-governmental organizations that regularly attend the Commission have been invited to send written contributions to the Secretariat for posting on that website.

75. The first of a series of intersessional meetings was held on 10 June 2014. All Member States, United Nations entities, international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations were invited and videoconferencing facilities were arranged to enable participants outside Vienna to follow the proceedings. A number of presentations were made on issues such as data collection and analysis; making best use of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (the regional meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies); and strengthening the operational and global implementation of the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action in the areas of demand reduction (prevention and treatment) and supply reduction (law enforcement and alternative development). Each presentation

was followed by an interactive discussion. A presentation was also made by the Chair of the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs on the involvement of civil society on the road towards the special session of the Assembly of 2016 (all presentations in that regard have been posted online on the UNODC website (www.unodc.org)).

76. Additional intersessional meetings will be held in the third quarter of the year, with a view to preparing a one-day special segment on the special session of the Assembly, during the reconvened fifty-seventh session of the Commission, on 3 December 2014, as well as a special segment on the special session during the fifty-eighth session of the Commission, in March 2015, pursuant to Commission resolution 57/5.

77. At its fifty-seventh session, the Commission recommended to the Economic and Social Council the approval of a draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly, entitled "Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016". If adopted, the General Assembly would stress the importance of the special session on the world drug problem in 2016, as noted in Commission resolution 57/5, as a milestone on the way to 2019, which has been set as the target date in the Political Declaration for the review of implementation; would decide that the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016 will have an inclusive preparatory process that includes extensive substantive consultations, allowing organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, relevant international and regional organizations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to fully contribute to the process, in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure and established practice; would also decide that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, shall lead this process by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner; and, in that regard, would invite the President of the General Assembly to support, guide and stay involved in the process.

X. Governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

78. At the fifty-seventh of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Member States welcomed the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and stated that they looked forward to further discussions in the working group, including on the regional and thematic programmes of the Office. During the past year, the working group continued to play an important role in preparing action by the governing bodies of the Office in key areas, including strategic and budgetary matters, the programmatic work, evaluation and oversight, and the Office's financial situation.

79. The funding situation of UNODC reflected the following trends: while special-purpose or earmarked voluntary contributions have continuously increased, indicating strong donor confidence, the level of general-purpose and unearmarked voluntary contributions has declined. That trend continued in the biennium 2012-2013, with $602.7 million received in special-purpose funding (an increase of 23.8 per cent compared with the biennium 2010-2011) and

$19.4 million received in general-purpose funding (a decrease of 26.5 per cent compared with the previous biennium). The constant reduction of core funding has put a continuing strain on management, support and oversight functions.

80. Moreover, less than 1 per cent of the regular budget of the United Nations is allocated to the Office. By resolution 68/248 A, the General Assembly approved regular budget resources in the amount of $43.9 million under section 16, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice. The UNODC consolidated budget for the biennium 2014-2015 is $736.6 million, of which 12 per cent comes from regular budget funds and $648.3 million from extrabudgetary resources.

81. In line with the cost recovery policies promulgated by the Controller, the Office is ensuring that funds for programme support costs are used only to cover indirect support functions, while the cost of direct support functions for UNODC programmes will be covered from the respective programme budgets. The objective is to move to a more predictable and stable funding mechanism, including a possible annual appeal and annual reporting. The biennium 2014-2015 is a transitional one, as consultations with Member States continue with the aim of ensuring transparency, clarity and internal review of cost structures.

82. UNODC continues to strengthen its evaluation culture. Consultation with the Independent Evaluation Unit is mandatory for project managers in ensuring reserved funding, planned evaluations and enhanced quality of reports. The Unit has led the completion of five strategic in-depth evaluations, as well as backstopped project evaluations and self-evaluations in line with project managers' evaluation plans. Further progress includes the establishment of a network of planning, monitoring and evaluation focal points at headquarters and field offices and the development of an online tool for project evaluations. The evaluation policy is further updated, in line with recommendations from oversight bodies, reflecting the needs of Member States and the Organization.

83. The Office has worked to ensure that UNODC technical cooperation programmes are designed on a sound evidential basis, in line with the principles of results-based management and taking into account recommendations from oversight bodies and evaluation reports. The Office continued to improve results-based management and refine systems and templates for the reporting of results, particularly through the UNODC programme review committee. That included the provision of programme-level reports to Member States in the working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

XI. Recommendations

84. **It is recommended that the General Assembly consider taking the following actions:**

(a) Urge Member States that have not yet done so to adhere to the drug control conventions, and urge all States to fully implement all the provisions of the conventions, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Commission

on Narcotic Drugs, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

(b) Urge Member States to take the measures necessary to implement the actions and attain the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and the Joint Ministerial Statement of the high-level review of 2014;

(c) Urge Member States to continue to actively cooperate with the International Narcotics Control Board in the exercise of its mandate;

Demand reduction and related measures

(d) Encourage Member States to consider substance use disorders as medical and public health issues and promote prevention interventions based on scientific evidence, such as the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, as the most effective way of addressing the problem of substance use disorders;

(e) Call upon Member States to improve the capacity of health-care systems to deliver evidence-based preventive and treatment interventions for substance use disorders at all levels and discourage the use of criminal sanctions in addressing substance use disorders;

(f) Urge Member States to promote measures to ensure the availability and accessibility of internationally controlled drugs for medical and scientific purposes, particularly for the relief of pain and for palliative care;

(g) Invite Member States to ensure that national legislative frameworks are in place to ensure that United Nations-recommended HIV prevention, treatment and care services for people who inject drugs and people in prisons and other closed settings can be delivered;

Supply reduction and related measures

(h) Call upon Member States to encourage their law enforcement authorities and prosecutorial services to cooperate with their counterparts in foreign jurisdictions in order to collaboratively investigate, arrest and prosecute transnational criminal organizations, including drug trafficking networks;

(i) Encourage Member States to review their national legislation to ensure that drug law enforcement authorities are empowered to deal with new challenges posed by pre-precursor substances, non-controlled licit chemicals and the emergence of new psychoactive substances that are sourced by drug traffickers;

(j) Encourage Member States to promote the use of the International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and to support the expansion of alternative development programmes, including through the facilitation of market access for products stemming from alternative development to contribute to the generation of legitimate long-term income for small farming communities;

(k) Encourage Member States to design alternative development programmes in line with the International Guiding Principles on Alternative Development to ensure that both a reduction in illicit crop cultivation and an improvement in social and economic conditions in target areas are achieved;

Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation

(l) Encourage Member States to ensure they have adequate domestic legislative frameworks to allow for adequate judicial cooperation and to criminalize the laundering of money derived from drug trafficking, precursor diversion and other serious crimes of a transnational nature;

(m) Urge Member States to fully implement and enforce legal and regulatory frameworks to prevent money-laundering and illicit financial flows, through the confiscation and recovery of illicit assets, in compliance with United Nations conventions and internationally accepted standards;

(n) Request Member States to strengthen financial and regulatory regimes for banks and other financial institutions as well as for designated non-financial business and professional entities;

Data collection and research

(o) Urge Member States to report data and information related to illicit drug trends regularly and in a timely manner to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime through mandated data collection tools, in particular the annual report questionnaire and the individual drug seizure reports;

(p) Request the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue providing technical assistance, upon request, to Member States that lack the capacity to collect accurate, reliable and comparable data and information on illicit drug production, trafficking and drug use and related harm, with a view to increasing their capacity to provide information through mandated data collection tools, and urge Member States to support the Office in that work;

(q) Request the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue collaboration with national, regional and international partners in monitoring new psychoactive substances with respect to the composition, production, distribution and patterns of use, and encourage Member States to share relevant data and information with regard to patterns of use, risks to public health, forensic data and the regulation of new psychoactive substances using the web-based early warning advisory on new psychoactive substances;

Governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

(r) Encourage Member States to continue to actively participate in the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(s) Urge Member States and encourage the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue building a culture of results-based management, accountability and evaluation and to continue to produce results-based programme reporting, and to ensure that lessons learned during

implementation of technical cooperation projects are fed into the development of new programmes;

(t) Urge Member States to address, as a matter of urgency, the need to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with adequate predictable and stable resources, including additional regular budget resources, to enable it to implement its mandated work in a sustainable manner, and to provide the Office the necessary voluntary contributions, preferably non-earmarked or soft-earmarked contributions;

Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

(u) Encourage Member States to actively participate in the preparations for the General Assembly special session on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, and encourage all stakeholders to support the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, in its leading role in the preparatory process for the special session.

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Item 92 of the preliminary list*
Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. Introduction

1. On 27 December 2013, the General Assembly adopted resolution 68/243 entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security". In paragraph 3 of the resolution, the Assembly invited all Member States, taking into account the assessments and recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security (A/68/98), to continue to inform the Secretary-General of their views and assessments on the following questions:

(a) General appreciation of the issues of information security;

(b) Efforts taken at the national level to strengthen information security and promote international cooperation in this field;

(c) The content of the concepts mentioned in paragraph 2 of the resolution;

(d) Possible measures that could be taken by the international community to strengthen information security at the global level.

2. Pursuant to that request, on 19 February 2014, a note verbale was sent to Member States inviting them to provide information on the subject. The replies received are contained in section II below. Any additional replies received will be issued as addenda to the present report.

II. Replies received from Governments

Australia

[Original: English]
[30 May 2014]

In Australia's view, existing international law provides the framework for State behaviour in cyberspace and for appropriate responses to unlawful online activity pursued by States. This includes, where applicable, international humanitarian law, law regarding the use of force, international human rights law and international law regarding State responsibility. Any new or additional norms for State behaviour in cyberspace must be developed consistent with international law.

The consensus report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security (A/68/98) made a significant contribution to the guidance of States by affirming that international law, and in particular the Charter of the United Nations, is applicable to States' use of cyberspace and essential to maintaining peace and stability. Australia considers this finding to be of fundamental significance. Australia believes that States should, individually and collectively, reiterate publicly their understanding that international law applies to States' behaviour in cyberspace and their commitment to act in cyberspace in accordance with their understanding of international law.

The report recognized the need for further discussion and articulation of how international law applies to States' use of cyberspace and recommended further

study in this area. It noted that additional norms could be developed over time. Australia believes that elaborating how international law applies to States' behaviour in cyberspace in both conflict and non-conflict situations, while acknowledging the complexities involved, is a priority task for the international community.

The report also made groundbreaking recommendations on cyber confidence-building measures. Australia recognizes that the elaboration of how international law applies to States' use of cyberspace is a long-term task. In the short term, there is a need for practical measures to address and prevent problems between States in cyberspace that may result from misperception and that could lead, through miscalculation and escalation, to conflict. Regional security organizations are particularly well-placed to consider, develop and implement cyber confidence-building measures. Australia is leading work within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Regional Forum to advance this important agenda, which, in view of varying capacities among members, should include capacity-building objectives.

Austria

[Original: English]
[19 May 2014]

The Austrian Cybersecurity Strategy, adopted in March 2013, provides a comprehensive and proactive concept for protecting cyberspace and people in virtual space while guaranteeing human rights. It enhances the security and resilience of Austrian infrastructures and services in cyberspace. Most importantly, it serves to build the awareness and confidence of Austrian society.

Global networking and international cooperation are essential to the Austrian Cybersecurity Strategy. Security in cyberspace is pursued through a coordinated policy mix at the national and international levels. Austria will engage in an active "cyber foreign policy" in the framework of European Union, United Nations, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Council of Europe, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) partnerships based on a coordinated and targeted approach.

Austria will contribute substantially to the implementation of the European Union Cybersecurity Strategy, participating fully in the strategic and operational work of the European Union. The competent ministries will take the necessary measures to implement and take full advantage of the Convention on Cybercrime of the Council of Europe. Austria advocates a free Internet at the international level. The free exercise of all human rights must be guaranteed in virtual space; particularly, the right to freedom of expression and information must not be restricted unduly in the Internet.

Austria will continue its bilateral cooperation in the framework of its NATO partnership and actively support the preparation of a list of concrete confidence- and security-building measures in OSCE. Austria participates actively in planning and implementing transnational cyberexercises. The experience gained will feed directly into planning and further developing operational cooperation. The Ministry for

Foreign Affairs coordinates the foreign policy measures relevant for cybersecurity. Where appropriate, the conclusion of bilateral or international agreements will be taken into consideration.

Nationally, a steering group is developing an implementation plan to carry out the horizontal measures laid down in the Austrian Cybersecurity Strategy. The competent bodies are responsible for implementing these measures within their respective mandates, with coordination by the steering group. Based on the Austrian Cybersecurity Strategy, they will develop substrategies for their sphere of responsibilities. The ministries represented in the steering group are tasked to submit an implementation plan to the Federal Government biannually. The preparation of the plan will be accompanied by a review of the Austrian Cybersecurity Strategy, to be revised and updated if necessary.

Colombia

[Original: Spanish]
[23 May 2014]

General appreciation of the issues of information security

In recent years, significant progress has been achieved in developing and applying information and communication technology, and this has led to major changes and benefits that have made a considerable contribution to the development of many countries, while promoting increased international cooperation for the dissemination of information.

Nevertheless, these technological advances have also highlighted deep concerns about the possibility that those advances could be used to undermine international stability and security, and adversely affect the integrity of States' infrastructure, with a resulting reduction in their civil and military security.

In this context, the use of new technologies to generate computer threats, and the existing threat of crime in cyberspace, are matters of great concern and of the utmost national importance for Colombia.

It is therefore imperative for Colombia to define policies and strategies to prevent information technology from being used for terrorist or criminal purposes.

Efforts made at the national level to strengthen information security and promote international cooperation

Legislative and institutional responses

In 2005 Colombia applied the ISO 27001 standard, conceived as a management system that set quality standards for information security in national entities, and advocated safeguarding the confidentiality, integrity and availability[1] of information.

[1] Confidentiality: preventing information from being used by unauthorized individuals or processes. Integrity: safeguarding the accuracy and completeness of anything of value to an organization. Availability: ensuring that information is accessible and usable on demand by authorized entities.

Four years later, the Congress of the Republic of Colombia enacted Act No. 1273 of 2009, which amended the Criminal Code by creating a new legally protected interest, namely "information and data protection". The amendment enabled the establishment of a national legal framework for the relevant authorities to prosecute and try information technology-related offences.

Within this framework, Colombia criminalized, inter alia, illegal access; illegal interception; attacks on data integrity; attacks on system integrity; device abuse; computer counterfeiting; computer fraud; child pornography; and crimes against intellectual property and related rights.

In 2011, through the CONPES 3701 document, Colombia launched its national cyberdefence and cybersecurity policy based on three fundamental pillars:

(a) Adopting an appropriate inter-institutional framework for prevention, coordination and monitoring and the formulation of recommendations to address any threats and risks that arise;

(b) Developing specialized training programmes on information security;

(c) Strengthening legislation on those matters and international cooperation, and, within that framework, accelerating Colombia's accession to the various international instruments, namely, the Budapest Convention.

In order to implement the aforementioned strategic principles comprehensively, Colombia designed and established four authorities:

1. The Intersectoral Commission, responsible for formulating the strategic vision of information management and setting policy guidelines for the management of public information technology infrastructure, cybersecurity and cyberdefence;

2. The Colombian Computer Emergency Response Team (colCERT), the national coordinating agency on matters of cybersecurity and cyberdefence;

3. The Armed Forces Joint Cyber Command (CCOC), which is tasked with preventing and countering any cyber threat or attack that affects national values and interests;

4. The Cyber Police Centre, which is responsible for Colombia's cybersecurity, offering information, support and protection from cybercrime.

Similarly, Colombia has a legal framework for the protection of personal data, established by means of Act No. 1581 of 2012 and Decree No. 1377 of 2013, which partially regulates the Act. Furthermore, a Department for Personal Data Protection was established in the Superintendence for Industry and Trade.

The Ministry of Information Technology and Communications also set up and implemented a Government Online strategy incorporating the requirements for entities to adopt information security management systems. Similarly, since 2008, the Ministry has trained around 6,300 civil servants on information technology management-related processes.

It should also be noted that, in the area of capacities, progress is being made with the identification of critical infrastructure (the infrastructure which, if damaged, could potentially lead to a loss of human life, economic damage or reduced governability of the country) with a view to safeguarding cybersecurity at those locations.

International cooperation

In 2013, Colombia formally applied for membership of the European Convention on Cybercrime, which establishes the principles of the international agreement on cybersecurity and penalties for the corresponding offences, and of which the main aim is to protect society from cybercrime by putting in place appropriate legislation and international cooperation.

In addition, in 2012, Colombia joined a multilateral agreement with the World Economic Forum, known as the "Partnership for Cyber-Resilience", geared to identifying and addressing global systematic risks stemming from the ever greater connectivity between persons, processes and objects.

Meanwhile, the Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism (CICTE) of the Organization of American States has established a comprehensive approach to capacity-building in the area of cybersecurity among member States. The Secretariat's main achievement has been the setting up of national "alert, watch, and warning" groups, also known as Computer Security Incident Response Teams", which have a mandate and the capacity to respond to crises, incidents and threats to cybersecurity.

Within this framework, and in cooperation with CICTE, Colombia has set up "alert, watch, and warning" groups that contribute to the development of national cybersecurity strategies. It has also taken part in workshops, courses and conventions on the handling of incidents involving cybersecurity, information security and cybercrime.

It should also be noted that Colombia has reached agreements with international enterprises and organizations operating in the information and communication industry, notably an agreement with Microsoft to enable access to institutions such as the "Cybercrime Center" and other cybersecurity programmes; and an agreement with the "Antipishing Working Group" for the purpose of joining the global coalition of legal authorities, industry enterprises and Government entities that are working to set up more efficient cyberincident alert and response mechanisms.

International measures taken to strengthen information security

Cybersecurity is not exclusively a Government problem, nor can it be solved by the Government alone: the support of other actors, namely, academia, industry and civil society, will be needed to address effectively the risks arising from the ever more intensive use of information and communications technology in all sectors.

Colombia considers that, for international information security to be strengthened at the global level, it is important for the international community to:

- Seek mechanisms to raise awareness in society, among elected officials and in the entities of each State of the need to create an information security culture and of the importance of international cooperation against cybercrime.
- Promote States' obligation to develop strategies geared to strengthening national capacities in the area of cybersecurity and cyberdefence.
- Urge States to identify critical infrastructure and set up a programme specifically intended to enhance its security and resilience.

- Provide incentives for bringing domestic legal frameworks into line with existing international instruments in the area of cybersecurity. Greater harmonization between different countries makes it easier to set up channels of cooperation for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of cybercrime by States.

Such harmonization should contribute to defining technology-related offences and set clear rules on jurisdiction and entitlement to prosecute.

- Promote the establishment of obligations requiring States and public and private national entities to save computer records for subsequent use in investigations and trials.
- Compile a glossary of cybercrime-related computer terminology that is generally unknown to officials in the criminal justice system, to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of systems, networks and computer data.
- Promote exchanges of experiences and best practices in the area of cyberdefence and cybersecurity, as well as set up specialized training networks.
- Urge States to join cyberincident alert networks.

Cuba

[Original: Spanish]
[27 May 2014]

Cuba fully shares the concern expressed in resolution 68/243 regarding the use of information technologies and means of telecommunication that may affect international stability and security and the integrity of States to the detriment of their security in civil and military fields. The resolution also places due emphasis on the need to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes.

In this regard, Cuba expresses its great concern over the covert and illegal use, by individuals, organizations and States, of the computer systems of other nations for the purpose of attacking third countries, because of its potential for triggering international conflicts. Some Governments have even said that it would be possible to respond to such attacks with conventional weapons. The only way to prevent and tackle these novel threats, and to avoid cyberspace turning into a theatre of military operations, is joint cooperation between all States.

The hostile use of telecommunications with the declared or hidden intent of undermining the legal and political order of States is a violation of the internationally recognized norms in this area and can give rise to tensions and situations that are not conducive to international peace and security.

In this regard, Cuba reiterates its condemnation of the radio and television war waged by the Government of the United States of America against Cuba, which violates the current international rules governing the radio-electric spectrum. This aggression is being perpetrated without regard for the damage that could be caused to international peace and security by creating dangerous situations.

The illegal radio and television broadcasts against Cuba are intended to promote illegal immigration and encourage and incite to violence, contempt for constitutional order and the perpetration of terrorist acts. The use of information for the purpose of subverting the internal order of other States, violating their sovereignty and meddling and interfering in their internal affairs is illegal.

These broadcasts against Cuba constitute violations of the international norms in force in the constitution of the International Telecommunication Union, of which the preamble acknowledges the growing importance of telecommunications for the preservation of peace and the economic and social development of all States, with the object of facilitating peaceful relations, international cooperation among peoples and economic and social development by means of efficient telecommunications services.

The Government of the United States of America is continuing to transmit audio broadcasts on the medium-wave commercial band 24 hours a day every day. This frequency band is not reserved for services to other countries. Other commercial radio stations provide services to anti-Cuban organizations to transmit broadcasts intended to subvert internal order and misinform the Cuban people.

Such broadcasts are transmitted on the short-wave band by various of these organizations, with the full knowledge of the Government of the United States.

Between April 2013 and April 2014, the average number of hours per week of broadcasts of subversive content to Cuba ranged from 1909 to 2070, using 27 frequencies. In September and October 2013, two North American stations broadcasting in southern Florida and whose signals are picked up in the western and central parts of Cuba began to broadcast programming of a counter-revolutionary nature.

Anti-Cuban broadcasts by the Martí radio and television station via international and domestic satellite systems of the United States also continued.

Furthermore, the "ZunZuneo" case, a complex plot supported by millions of dollars from the United States Government and intended to promote subversion in Cuba using a messaging service on social networks, was exposed this year.

This illegal programme, which was active until 2012, was used to collect the private data of Cuban users, without their consent, and to process their profiles by gender, age, tastes and affiliations of various kinds, for use for political purposes.

ZunZuneo, like other subversive operations, violates Cuban law and United States legislation, such as the Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography And Marketing Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-187), adopted by the United States Congress in December 2003, which prohibits the sending of commercial or other types of messages without the express consent of the addressee.

This was yet another violation of the constitution of the International Telecommunication Union since such uses of new technologies, and social networks in particular, are clearly not conducive to peaceful relations and international cooperation by means of efficient telecommunications services.

The harmful practice of sending unsolicited mail (spam) has been the subject of over 10 recommendations of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau and

constitutes a violation of point No. 37 of the Declaration of Principles of the World Summit on the Information Society held in Geneva in 2003.

The Government of the United States should respect international law and the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations; it should therefore cease its illegal and covert actions against Cuba, which are condemned by the Cuban people and international public opinion.

In this regard, the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) adopted a communiqué on 29 April, in which it stressed that the illegal use of new information and communication technologies had a negative impact on nations and their citizens.

In that communiqué, CELAC strongly expressed its rejection of the use of ICTs in a manner contrary to international law, and all actions of that nature. It underlined the importance of guaranteeing that the use of such technologies should be fully consistent with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law, in particular sovereignty, non-interference in internal affairs and internationally recognized standards of coexistence between States. It reiterated its commitment to intensifying international efforts to safeguard cyberspace and promote its use for exclusively peaceful purposes and as a medium contributing to economic and social development.

Cuba supported resolution 68/243 and will continue to contribute to the peaceful global development of information and telecommunications technologies and their use for the good of all humanity.

El Salvador

[Original: Spanish]
[26 May 2014]

The Armed Forces of El Salvador, within the framework of information security and telecommunications, has put in place a voice, video and data telecommunications network that is separate from the public network and intended to protect all information from any external agent that might attempt to infiltrate it, as well as from cyberattacks.

Georgia

[Original: English]
[30 May 2014]

Executive summary

Cyberwar, conducted against Georgia in 2008, put the protection of critical infrastructure high on the agenda of the Government of Georgia. The rapidly growing dependence of the critical infrastructure and Government services on information technology (IT) increases vulnerability to cybercrime-related incidents. Accordingly, adequate protection of critical infrastructure from cyberthreats is one of the priorities of the Government of Georgia.

The first targets of cyberattacks in 2008 were Government and news media websites. Later, the attacks were expanded to include many more Government websites, Georgian financial institutions, business associations, educational institutions, more news media websites and a Georgian hacking forum. These cyberattacks were intended to interrupt normal business operations. Apart from the two big banks, the business-related targets were primarily organizations that could have been used to communicate and coordinate responses among different businesses.

The above-described experience demonstrates that cyberattacks on the critical infrastructure of Georgia by State and private actors can cause serious physical damage as well as significant financial damage to the public and private sectors. Therefore, the Government of Georgia considers cybersecurity to be part of the general security policy of the country, especially in the view of its increased reliance on IT as a vehicle for the delivery of Government services.

Voicing these concerns, the National Security Council and a special working group comprised of different Government agencies developed the national Cybersecurity Strategy of Georgia throughout 2011, as a part of the National Security Review. The Cybersecurity Strategy and the action plan for its implementation were presented to the public for discussion in March 2012 and finally adopted in January 2013.

A further step was the establishment of the Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia in 2010 as a central Government entity responsible for the development and implementation of e-governance policies and solutions. An important part of the Agency's mandate is information security for the public sector and private entities as follows:

- Adoption and implementation of information security policies and standards in public sector and critical infrastructure
- Providing consultancy services in the field of information security and performing information security audits
- Awareness-raising activities about information security issues in the public as well as the civil sector
- Cybersecurity mandate through the national computer emergency response team.

The full text of Georgia's submission can be found at http://www.un.org/disarmament/topics/informationsecurity/.

Germany

[Original: English]
[30 May 2014]

Executive summary

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) offer unprecedented opportunities for industrialized and developing countries alike. At the same time, vulnerabilities and systemic weaknesses exist.

There is a trend towards hard-to-detect, sophisticated and malicious activities, targeting high-value objectives. Severe consequences may result. A cyberattack against key infrastructures could cause more disruption than an isolated physical attack, sometimes with unpredictable consequences for other networked entities.

Despite such risks, an all-out "cyberwar" seems unrealistic for the time being. A more likely scenario may be the limited use of cybercapabilities as part of a larger war-fighting effort. Finally, there is the danger that cyberincidents may escalate into "real-life" conflict.

In this situation, increasing cyberresilience, agreeing on laws and rules that apply to the use of ICTs and engaging in confidence-building measures become ever more important.

There has been welcome progress in 2013: The last report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security made clear that international law is applicable to cyberspace. The Group also found that State sovereignty and international norms and principles that flow from sovereignty apply to State conduct of ICT-related activities and to its jurisdiction over ICT infrastructure within its territory. Germany is looking forward to seeing how the new Group of Governmental Experts will take this further.

Concerning confidence-building measures, OSCE made important progress with the adoption of a first set of steps to increase inter-State cooperation, transparency, predictability and stability, with a view to reducing the risks of misperception, escalation and conflict that may stem from the use of information and communication technologies. This OSCE agreement might be useful as a model for other regional organizations.

Germany's Cybersecurity Strategy (2011) proceeds from the assertion that the availability of cyberspace and the integrity, authenticity and confidentiality of data in cyberspace have become of vital importance. Ensuring cybersecurity has turned into a central challenge for the State, business and society. All need to act together, both at the national level and in cooperation with international partners. Germany's Cybersecurity Strategy sets out the following objectives and measures:

- Protecting critical information infrastructures
- Securing IT systems
- Strengthening IT security in public administration
- Running a national cyberresponse centre
- Establishing a national Cybersecurity Council
- Effective crime control in cyberspace
- Effective coordinated action to ensure cybersecurity in Europe and worldwide
- Using reliable and trustworthy information technology
- Personnel development among federal authorities
- Tools to respond to cyberattacks.

Following the German general election in September 2013 and according to the Coalition Agreement, cybersecurity is high on the Government agenda. Data privacy standards will be on the rise. Lead topics for the next four years include better consumer protection; amendments to the criminal laws to better protect individuals; the passing of an IT security law with mandatory minimum IT security standards for critical infrastructure; and an obligation in respect of all federal authorities to invest 10 per cent of their IT budget to improve the security of their systems.

As a consequence of concerns about unlawful or arbitrary surveillance and/or interception of communications, as well as unlawful or arbitrary collection of personal data by third parties, the Government of Germany strongly encourages IT service providers to encrypt telecommunication and not to forward telecommunication data to foreign intelligence services.

The full text of Germany's submission can be found at http://www.un.org/disarmament/topics/informationsecurity/.

Portugal

[Original: English]
[20 May 2014]

General Assembly resolution 68/243 on the above-mentioned theme recalls the important role of science and technology in the context of international security, recognizing that the developments in those areas can have civil and military applications and also recognizing that progress should be maintained and encouraged. Progress in the field of information and telecommunications means increasing opportunities for the development of civilization; cooperation among States; the promotion of human creativity; and the circulation of information in the community as a whole.

However, those technologies and means can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with international stability and security and may negatively affect the national integrity of States, in the civil and military fields.

General Assembly resolution 68/243 requires the contribution of Member States in four areas, recalling the report of the Group of Governmental Experts A/68/98:

1. General appreciation of the issues of information security;

2. Efforts taken at the national level to strengthen information security and to promote international cooperation in this field;

3. The content of the concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems;

4. Possible measures that could be taken by the international community to strengthen information security at the global level.

The report presented some recommendations regarding the following areas: norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviour by States; confidence-building measures and the exchange of information; and capacity-building measures.

Following those recommendations, we can describe our national context:

(I) Norms, rules and principles that characterize the responsible behaviour of States

1. Portugal considers that security in network information is important and has been growing;

2. We must highlight the development of efforts in the implementation of legislation on network security and integrity by adopting methods in respect of risk, which demand the adoption of adequate security measures, at the technical and organizational levels, and the requirement of reporting security violations or integrity loss which have a significant impact on the functioning of services. Also important are the auditing procedures in the field of security, carried out by the national Notification Centre for Security Violations or Integrity Loss;

3. Concerning protection of personal data and privacy, it is important to highlight the changes that have occurred, for instance in the mandatory reporting of personal data violations;

4. At the level of concepts, it is important to reinforce the idea that regulation should stem from international rules;

5. At the international level, it is important to reinforce information-sharing and the realization of training field exercises in border areas.

(II) Measures for the reinforcement of confidence and information-sharing

1. It is crucial to promote information-sharing, taking into account wider globalization;

2. At the national level, our efforts have focused on the accomplishment of joint exercises in which public and private entities participate, the promotion of technical standardization, and the organization of conferences and seminars, some of them with the participation of international speakers.

(III) Measures for capacity-building

1. It is important to develop measures on capacity-building. Nevertheless, there are difficulties related to the training and maintenance of human resources connected to these activities;

2. There is a need to facilitate access to knowledge;

3. Top-level hierarchy is not sufficiently aware of its own responsibility in these matters.

Serbia

[Original: English]
[28 May 2014]

Taking into account the great importance given to information security on the global and national levels, the Republic of Serbia has undertaken a number of activities in order to provide efficient national policies and effective security mechanisms. In the Strategy for the Development of the Information Society in the

Republic of Serbia until 2020, adopted by the Government of the Republic of Serbia in 2010, information security is declared to be one of six priority areas. Serbia does not have a national strategy solely dedicated to information security, but this topic is dealt with in a number of other documents. In October 2013, a special working group was formed and tasked to draft a law on information security. The law is harmonized with the relevant international and European Union legal frameworks and determines the following: information security institutional framework; measures needed to provide enhanced security of ICT systems in the Republic of Serbia, including ICT systems of public bodies and enterprises; norms for prevention coordination in respect of security risks in ICT systems; establishment of the national computer emergency response team; specific security measures and preconditions to be applied in information systems of State bodies; security of classified data in ICT systems; crypto-security and protection from compromising electromagnetic emanations.

The ICT Department of the Administration for Joint Services of the Republic Bodies performs the activities related to the protection of information security, data protection and the implementation of prescribed security standards for information systems of State bodies. In the Administration's annual report, it was stated that within its mandate of protection of State ICT systems, the Department provides protection from cyberattacks on a daily basis, as the network is attacked every day.

The Academic Network of the Republic of Serbia performs the computer security incident response activities for the educational and scientific research institutions in the Republic of Serbia. In the Academic Network's 2013 annual report, it was declared that there has been an increasing number of incidents compared with 2012. The report identified old equipment as one of the reasons for the increasing number of attacks.

Only a well-established national information security culture embraced at every level of society can be effective to locally strengthen the security of national information and telecommunications systems. Similarly, only such well-established national information security systems can be a part of the application of the international information security concepts to strengthen the security of global information and telecommunications systems.

The Office of the National Security Council and Classified Information Protection (hereinafter, the National Security Council Office) is the Serbian Government service responsible for coordination of the implementation of national and European Union security policies at the national level (National Security Authority). A specific segment of its activities is reflected in the adoption of information assurance measures and the coordination of the implementation of those measures in Government bodies and other institutions for the purpose of the protection of classified information. In this context, the Decree on special measures for the protection of classified information in information telecommunications systems was passed in 2011 (Official Gazette RS, No. 53/2011). At the international level, since 2011, the National Security Council Office has been an active participant in the Forum of the directors of the South-East European National Security Authorities. One of the Forum's primary aims is to enhance information assurance and classified information protection in the regional countries, in line with international standards. The National Security Council Office acts as a chief coordinator for developing a regional cyberdefence concept within the framework of the South-East European National Security Authorities.

The National Security Council Office has prepared and sent other thematic working group members a number of related proposals for their examination, harmonization and approval. Such proposals are structured by means of the following working documents: (1) Cyberdefence programme objectives; and (2) — South-East European National Security Authorities cyberdefence questionnaire.

The Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia is participating in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 68/243. Departments within the Ministry of Defence are active in the working group tasked to draft the law on information security.

Also, the Ministry of Defence is in the process of forming different departments that will operate in the area of information security and cyberdefence.

Switzerland

[Original: English]
[29 May 2014]

A. General appreciation of the issues of information security

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) have become an indispensable driver of social, economic and political activities. Switzerland is committed to seize the opportunities that are generated by the use of ICTs. Switzerland takes account of the new developments and challenges in relation to ICTs and actively engages in shaping the information society by means of the Strategy of the Federal Council for an Information Society in Switzerland.

However, the use of ICTs has exposed information and communication infrastructure to criminal, intelligence, politico-military or terrorist abuse or functional impairment. Disturbances, manipulation and specific attacks carried out via electronic networks are the risks that an information society entails. Against this background, States have become increasingly engaged in a series of regional and international policy discussions and debates over cybersecurity. This engagement is generated from a growing sense of insecurity regarding vulnerabilities in computer systems and related technologies and how they can be exploited for malicious purposes.

Even though vulnerabilities and threats in this environment have been recorded since the 1980s, it was not until the past seven years that threats and vulnerabilities stemming from the use of ICTs were put on the national security agenda. As a result, the Swiss Federal Government set up an expert group in 2010 in order to scrutinize the risks and increase the national capacity to respond to these threats and vulnerabilities.

Switzerland's functioning as a holistic system depends on a growing number of mutually networked information and communication facilities (computers and networks). This infrastructure is vulnerable. Country-wide or long-lasting disruptions and attacks could have severe adverse effects for Switzerland's technical, economic and administrative performance. Such attacks can be launched by a variety of perpetrators and have various motives: individual perpetrators, political activists, criminal organizations intent on fraud or blackmail, and terrorists or State spies who want to disrupt and destabilize the State and society. ICTs are particularly attractive as targets not only because they offer many possibilities for abuse, manipulation and

damage, but also because they can be used anonymously and with little effort. Protecting information and communication infrastructure from such disturbances and attacks is in Switzerland's national interest. In this sense, we welcome the conclusion of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security that international law is applicable to ICTs.

B. Efforts taken at the national level to strengthen information security and to promote international cooperation in this field

On 27 June 2012, the Swiss Federal Government adopted the National strategy for the protection of Switzerland against cyberrisks, thereby laying the foundation for a comprehensive, integrated and holistic approach to tackling cyberrisks. The strategy seeks to improve the early detection of cyberrisks and emerging threats, make Swiss infrastructure more resilient to cyberattacks and generally reduce cyberrisks. The main focus lies on cybercrime, espionage and sabotage. The underlying rational of the strategy is the need for a cybersecurity culture, shared responsibility and the need for a risk-based approach. It advocates stronger coordination at the Government level and fosters private-public partnership and enhanced cooperation in the international arena.

The strategy comprises a set of 16 measures, which should be put in place by 2017. In order to guarantee the effective and timely implementation of these measures, the Government of Switzerland adopted a detailed plan for the implementation of the strategy on 15 May 2013. It also established a steering committee, in which the leading agency for the implementation of a specific measure is represented. The steering committee is mandated to secure the coordinated, purposeful implementation of this strategy. Its roles and responsibilities range from ensuring coordination among the relevant Swiss Federal departments[2] and relevant agencies at the local level. At an operational level, the Government has set up a coordination unit which is supposed to support the work of the steering committee.

The set of measures ranges from risk and vulnerability analysis, analysis of the threat landscape, continuity and crisis management and competence-building measures to international cooperation and initiatives.

The 16 measures can be broken down into four main areas:

- Prevention (i.e. risk and vulnerability analysis and threat landscape);
- Reaction (i.e. incident handling, active measures and law enforcement);
- Continuity (i.e. continuity and crisis management);
- Supporting processes (i.e. international cooperation, education and research, legal foundations, etc.).

C. Content of the concepts mentioned in paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 68/243

International cooperation is one of the action fields that needs to be strengthened by means of the Swiss national cyberstrategy. Thus, Switzerland is determined to cooperate at the international security policy level so as to encounter the threat in cyberspace together with other countries and international

[2] Equivalent to a Ministry.

organizations. Switzerland is committed to monitor and shape respective developments at the diplomatic level and promote political exchanges within the framework of international conferences and other diplomatic initiatives.

Against this background, Switzerland participates in different international processes aimed at developing global mechanisms. OSCE has adopted confidence-building measures in the realm of cybersecurity. Switzerland considers this process as paramount. Thus, by pursuing a "dual track", Switzerland will focus on the implementation of the first set of confidence-building measures as well as on the development of further measures. In addition, the London Agenda constitutes a further important process within which Switzerland participates. Lastly, as a non-member of the Group of Governmental Experts, Switzerland is interested in the reports issued by this Group. In this regard, we support, in particular, the request to continue to study, among others, how international law, including the Charter of the United Nations and human rights and international humanitarian law, applies to the use of ICTs.

Bilaterally, Switzerland holds regular political consultations with countries on cyber-related issues.

Switzerland is a signatory country to the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime, which entered into force on 1 January 2012.

D. Possible measures that could be taken by the international community to strengthen information security at the global level

Initiatives and measures designed to increase trust and build better understanding and confidence among States are to be focused on. At a bilateral level, track 1, 1.5 and 2 dialogues between States and other relevant stakeholders on cybersecurity issues have proved to be fruitful. Dialogues on cybersecurity need to be further developed and enhanced.

Information security could be strengthened at the global level by means of establishing joint mechanisms to avoid escalation to armed conflict. Thus, direct communication lines at both the technical and policy levels could be established. By maintaining regular contacts at the highest level, security in cyberspace can be improved.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

[Original: English]
[29 May 2014]

Executive summary

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomes the opportunity to respond to General Assembly resolution 68/243 entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security", which builds on its response to resolution 67/27 in 2013. The United Kingdom uses its preferred terminology of "cybersecurity" and related concepts throughout its response to avoid confusion, given the different interpretations of the term "information security" in this context.

The United Kingdom recognizes that cyberspace is a fundamental element of critical national and international infrastructure and an essential foundation for economic and social activity online. Actual and potential threats posed by activities in cyberspace are of great concern. Our response details national and international approaches that have been and will be taken in order to strengthen security and promote cooperation in this field. These approaches have been underpinned by the United Kingdom's National Cybersecurity Strategy, published in November 2011.

The United Kingdom has participated actively and constructively in the international debate on cybersecurity. We have provided experts for all three Groups of Governmental Experts and welcome the consensus report of the last Group, making valuable progress in reaching common understandings on norms of State behaviour in cyberspace and affirming the applicability of international law in cyberspace. The United Kingdom also welcomes the adoption of the first set of regional confidence-building measures on cyberspace that were successfully negotiated at OSCE. The response outlines the United Kingdom's work on sharing best practice worldwide, both by working with international partners to tackle cybercrime and major incidents and by its commitment to building cybercapacity and cybercapability.

The United Kingdom looks forward to seeing further progress in all of these areas. This includes the forthcoming Group of Governmental Experts, the implementation of confidence-building measures in OSCE and the development of further confidence-building measures there and in other regional groups, the establishment of computer emergency response teams and increased cooperation among them, strengthening law enforcement cooperation on cybercrime, and promoting the multi-stakeholder approach.

The United Kingdom is pleased to be actively engaged on these important issues and looks forward to further participation in strengthening capability and international cooperation on cybersecurity.

The full text of the United Kingdom's submission can be found at http://www.un.org/disarmament/topics/informationsecurity/.